

ALLEN-SCOTT REPORT

Inside Washington

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Handwritten notes: Raborn, Dom. Republic

CPYRGHT

There For A Long Stay

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WASHINGTON — President Johnson is privately indicating the Marines may be in the Dominican Republic much longer than any U.S. official is publicly admitting.

Also, he is saying that the Marines' mission goes further than protecting U.S. citizens and property.

In revealing his dispatch of Marines to Santo Domingo, the President told a bipartisan meeting of congressional leaders at the White House he plans to keep the Leathernecks on that strife-torn island until "stability" is restored.

When one legislator asked how long that might be and how the President would justify his action, he replied:

"As long as we have American citizens to protect in the Dominican Republic, we are going to keep the Marines there. The evacuation of all the Americans could take considerable time, depending on the situation and how long we want to extend the operation.

IN NO HURRY

"There is going to be no rush to withdraw the Marines. They are going to stay there until there is stability. They are a warning to Castro to stay out."

While neither the President nor Secretary of State indicated which side the U.S. is supporting in the Dominican fighting, Central Intelligence Director William Raborn made clear which group is backed by the Communists.

He warned that the so-called rebels attempting to restore deposed President Juan Bosch to office are heavily infiltrated with well-organized Communist elements equipped with heavy weapons, and are opposing the pro-U.S. military forces under Air Force Gen. Elias Wesslin.

ARMS FROM CASTRO

According to Adm. Raborn, latest reports from CIA sources on the Caribbean island indicated the rebels are using

weapons made in both the Soviet bloc and the U.S. He said there was evidence some of the weapons had been smuggled into Santo Domingo from Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Raborn, who had been sworn in as the new CIA chief only a few hours before the White House meeting, stressed that a Red-instigated uprising in Haiti would probably follow if the Communist-backed rebels were successful.

He pointed out that tiny Haiti, occupying the same island with the Dominican Republic, is the closest nation to Cuba. It has approximately 4,500,000 inhabitants and one of the strongest Communist undergrounds in the Caribbean area.

In the Dominican Republic, the Bosch supporters ousted the civilian junta headed by Donald Reid Cabral in a swift uprising last week. Their revolt began to falter when Gen. Wesslin, with loyal navy and army units, counterattacked.

BOSCH TOPPLED

Some two years ago, on Sept. 25, 1963, the Bosch government was toppled in a bloodless military coup. As reported in this column on Oct. 14, 1963, the military junta that ousted President Juan Bosch uncovered a definite Communist menace within the Dominican Republic.

J.A. Bonilla-Aviles, the Republic's ambassador to the OAS, submitted shocking evidence of this Communist infiltration to both the Organization of American States and the Senate armed services preparedness subcommittee.

His alarming report included the names of a dozen Communists and their key roles in the Bosch cabinet and other government agencies.

During his regime, Bosch refused to denounce Castro. Communist party groups had complete freedom of action. On various occasions the Communist party had paid advertisements in the newspapers sup-

porting Bosch and his government.

MELTING POT

Gian-Carlo Menotti, famous operatic composer, is still chuckling over the White House dinner conversation he had with the wives of the two freshmen members of Congress of Italian descent.

After he was seated between the two legislators' wives at the state dinner for Italian Prime Minister Moro, one of the ladies turned to the renowned composer, asking:

"What do you do for a living?"

"I compose opera and write," replied Menotti.

"I can just tell by looking at you," remarked one of the women, "that if you work hard, you will make it."

"Yes, yes," added the other. "Just don't worry. I have faith that you will be a big success some day."

Menotti, who has composed some of America's finest operas, just shook his head. Later he remarked to a close friend, "I wonder who is in charge of seating arrangements in the White House."

Daniel Flood, D-Pa., top congressional expert on Panama, has warned the White House he will oppose any joint U.S.-Soviet project to build a new sea-level canal in Central America. He also told aides of the President to "keep an eye on Dr. Milton Eisenhower, or he will give the canal away before it is built." Dr. Eisenhower is one of five persons selected by the President to recommend a site for the new canal Government studies on the proposed sea-level canal indicate that the waterway could be operated by 500 men Four Latin American nations are candidates for the canal, which the U.S. eventually will build between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans — Panama, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Colombia, with Panama favored to get the nod.